
Smoked Glass.

PERIODIC APPEARANCE.

They Come in Greatest Numbers About
Every Eleven Years—Closely Connected
With Magnetic Disturbances—There Has
Come to Be a Change of These Things

Have you seen the sun spots?
If you have not seen the sun spots you are
away behind the times, for there is a large col-

selection of choice articles of that sort now on exhibition, which may be seen with the simple assistance of a smoked glass. This is a banner year for sun spots. For some reason or other, as yet unknown, there is a regular gradation in the matter of sun spots.

of spots which have recently made their appearance on the face of that heavenly body which is just now so hot were reported by Prof. Holden of the Lick observatory several days ago. They have attracted considerable attention in the astronomical world and have received a good deal of study from scientists in this city. There have

been a number of curious transformations in these remarkable phenomena since they were first observed and they have caused a good deal of speculation as to their significance and cause.

A CHANGE OF THEORY.

It used to be considered that the presence of sun spots was largely accountable for magnetic disturbances. Of recent years this theory has been, for the most part, abandoned. It is recognized, just the same,

that they are very closely connected, but one is now no longer regarded as the effect of the other. They are both considered to be coincident effects of the same cause, whatever that cause may be. This fact, taken together with the periodicity of their appearances, has given rise to the theory that the sun is more than a mere collection of gases as was formerly considered, but has a nucleus of some sort, although it is not known what the nature of that nucleus is. This has opened up a wide and fertile

The German astronomers publish a year book containing the results of their labors, and this book has also within it a list of statistics bearing upon the appearance of sun spots. Observations have been made and recorded since about the year 1741, and these show that for some reason

about every eleventh year sun spots are most noticeable and frequent. From that point they dwindle down by regular steps to a minimum and then take an upward turn again. The highest number observed during this periodic year varies somewhat between a hundred and fifty and two hundred, while at the lowest point it goes down to a half dozen or even less.

PROF. BIGELOW'S OBSERVATIONS.

Among Washington astronomers Prof. Frank

H. Bigelow of the weather bureau has attracted the most attention from the value of the observations he has made on the subject of sun spots. He, more than any one else, holds to the importance of these phenomena in their relation to meteorology. He regards the connection as a very close one indeed, and, while he might almost be considered an extremist in his views, he has yet been able to bear them out with gratifying success. He considers the presence

On the other hand Prof. Asaph Hall of the Naval Observatory, in an interview, said that he does not believe there are any well established relations between thunder storms and the appearance of spots on the sun, although this form an interesting subject and one that will return close attention.

that there is a relaxation existing between these spots and the disturbances of the magnetic needle. These black spots are openings through the bright gaseous envelope and from their appearance is obtained the time of the sun's rotation on its axis. The spots on the equator of the sun give a shorter time for this period while the others give a longer time, possibly from some peculiar motion of this gaseous envelope.

Prof. Bigelow said to a **Star** reporter that he

did not care to express himself in print, except generally, just at this time. This was not because he does not realize the importance of the subject and the interest it arouses among the people generally, but for the reason that he is engaged upon a publication which is to appear in a couple of months, and which will embody the results of his observations together with all the rest of the information that has yet been arrived at in connection with these curious phenomena.

The work is being done under the supervision and direction of the Agricultural Department and inasmuch as it is a government publication he did not feel at liberty to give its contents, even in a small way to the public at this time, in view of the ban that has been placed upon the employes of the department by the secretary.

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CONSUL GENERAL MORSE,

He Talks Freely Upon Indiana and Gen-

S. E. Morse, consul general to Paris, arrived here from Indianapolis, yesterday. He will sail on the Umbria next Saturday for London and proceed from there by easy stages to Paris. Mr. Morse will retain his relations with the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, the organ of the bootster democracy, and continue to be a leader in the politics of the state.

ins will be Mr. Morse's first experience in official life. He said today that he had been an active newspaper man for twenty-two years and thought he deserved a respite. Mr. Morse was undiplomatic enough not to withhold his views on politics from a SPAN reporter and in answer to an inquiry said:

"I believe Indiana is a safe democratic state by from 8,000 to 10,000 majority. When the republicans have carried it in the past it has been by accident such as those

which occasionally give the democrats a victory in Ohio. It has been argued that the influx of population in the gas region has added to the republican strength in the state. This claim was made by the republicans before the last election, but the returns proved that the increase in population in the gas region had not changed the relative strength of the parties to any great extent. It is a fact, however, that the democrats have made an increase in their strength by the rapid

"I believe he expects to be nominated and elected in 1896. The republican leaders in Indiana are undoubtedly working to that end now and will have a very compact organization when the convention meets. My opinion is that ex-Speaker Reed will be the republican nominee in 1896. The republican party is a mix of force and weakness, and Reed is the

most prominent representative and most forcible leader in his party. He is more capable of leading a spirited campaign than any other man I know of, and for that reason I think he will be the choice. Republicans generally seem to be looking to him as the leader, even in Indiana, aside from the local interest in ex-President Harrison, there is a general sentiment in favor of Reed. I regard him as the most dangerous man to the democracy that the republicans could nominate."

"What of the next democratic candidate?"

"I believe the next democratic candidate will come from the west. There seems to be a general demand for a western man for 1896."

"What of Gresham?"

He may be a prominent candidate before the convention. He will be charged to Illinois, however. Indiana has no candidate for Presidential honors that I know of. Any speculation, however, as to the democratic candidate for 1896 must be limited somewhat by a consideration of the accidents and mischance of

Wants Damages for Injuries.
Wm. B. Lowry and Ida Lowry, by Mr. Campbell Carrington, filed a suit for \$10,000 against the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company for injuries received June 6 last at 7th and H streets southwest. It is alleged that while alighting from a summer with her infant in her arms by reason of the car starting suddenly